

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner:

- (1) rejected claim 6 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Oh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,810,047) ("Oh"); and
- (2) rejected claims 1-5 and 7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oh in view of Farmer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,836,487) ("Farmer").

In response to Items 1 and 2, Applicants have canceled claims 1-7 and added new claims 8-16 in order to more clearly define the present invention and distinguish it from the prior art.

Oh discloses a wavelength tunable external resonator which uses an optical deflector to control the angle of a beam generated from a laser diode. More particularly, the refractive index of the optical deflector is controlled by varying the electrical signal applied to the optical deflector, and hence the direction of the beam.

Oh fails to disclose Applicants' first thermo-optic prism for steering the direction of the light from each of a plurality of lasers, and Oh fails to disclose Applicants' second thermo-optic prism for correcting an aberration introduced by the first thermo-optic prism so as to restore the quality and shape of the light from each of the plurality of spatially offset tunable lasers.

Farmer fails to remedy the deficiencies of Oh. More particularly, Farmer fails to disclose Applicants' first thermo-optic prism for steering the direction of the light from each of a plurality of lasers, and Farmer fails to disclose Applicants' second thermo-optic prism for correcting an aberration introduced by the first thermo-optic prism so as to restore the quality and

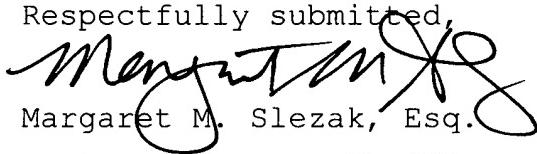
shape of the light from each of the plurality of spatially offset tunable lasers.

Accordingly, this patent application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

In the event that any fees may be required in this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



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